

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

After the foregoing Amendment, Claims 1, 3, 5-12, 14, 16-23, 25, and 27-35 are currently pending in this application. Claims 2, 4, 13, 15, 24 and 26 have been canceled without prejudice. Claims 1, 11, 23 and 34 have been amended to incorporate the limitations of claims 2 and 4.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner is thanked for indicating that claims 3-5, 7, 14-16, 18, 25-27, and 29 contain allowable subject matter.

Claim Objections

The Examiner objected to claims 11 and 28 because of informalities. Claim 11 is amended to replace "capable of accessing" with --configured to access--. Claim 28 is amended to replace "a device" with "one or more of the devices". The withdrawal of the objection to the claims 11 and 28 is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

Claims 1-2, 6, 8-13, 17, 19-24, 28 and 30-35 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by US Pat. 6,285,662 (Watanabe).

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The Examiner has found that claim 4 is allowable if rewritten in independent form to include limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, claim 1 is amended to incorporate claim 4 as well as intervening claim 2. Likewise, independent claims 11, 23 are amended to incorporate the limitations of corresponding claims 13 and 15, 24 and 26, respectively. Independent claim incorporates similar limitations from claim 2 and 4.

The remaining dependent claims are allowable based on the merits of their respective allowable base claims.

Based on the arguments presented above, withdrawal of the 35 USC 102 rejection of claims 1, 3, 5-12, 14, 16-23, 25, and 27-35 is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

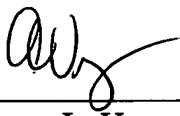
If the Examiner believes that any additional minor formal matters need to be addressed in order to place this application in condition for allowance, or that a telephone interview will help to materially advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone at the Examiner's convenience.

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In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Sugar et al.

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